LIEUTENANT GENERAL GUY C. SWAN III Commanding General United States Army North (Fifth Army) and Fort Sam Houston, Texas

Lieutenant General Guy C. Swan III is the Commanding General of United States Army North (Fifth Army). He took command on 15 December 2009, following his assignment in Operation IRAQI FREEDOM as the Chief of Staff for the Multi-National Force in Iraq. US Army North is responsible for homeland defense, providing military support to civil authorities, and conducting military-to-military engagement with the armies of Mexico and Canada.



As a Lieutenant, he commanded a tank platoon in the 1st Battalion, 72nd Armor Regiment in the 2nd Infantry Division in South Korea and later an armored cavalry platoon leader in the 3rd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment.

As a Captain, he commanded a tank company in the 2nd Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment in the 9th Infantry Division (Motorized).

Lieutenant General Swan served as the Chief of Plans for the 1st Armored Division in Germany, and as the division's Deputy Operations Officer in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq during Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM. After the Gulf War, he returned to the cavalry joining the 1st Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment (BLACKHORSE) in Germany and deployed again to Kuwait as the Squadron Executive Officer during Operation POSITIVE FORCE.

He commanded the 4th Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, an M1A1 Abrams main battle tank unit in the 24th Infantry Division, as a Lieutenant Colonel.

As a Colonel, he commanded the 2,500-Soldier 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment (BLACKHORSE), serving as the 57th Colonel of the Regiment at the US Army's National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California.

As a Brigadier General, he was the Commanding General of the 7th Army Training Command at Grafenwoehr, Germany, responsible for supporting the training readiness of all US Army Soldiers based in Europe or deployed to the Balkans for Operations JOINT GUARDIAN and JOINT FORGE.

Upon becoming a Major General he took command as the Commanding General of the Joint Force Headquarters – National Capital Region (JFHQ-NCR) and the US Army Military District of Washington (MDW) where he commanded all Army troops within the National Capital Region and as the Joint Force commander for various response missions in the greater Washington, D.C. area. He was Mrs. Betty Ford's official escort during the state funeral for President Gerald R. Ford in January 2006.

Lieutenant General Swan was commissioned as an Armor Officer from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, and has also served as the Assistant Deputy Director for Strategy and Policy for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, as the Army's Chief of Legislative Liaison, and as the Director of Operations for United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM).

Lieutenant General Swan holds a Master of Arts degree in National Security Studies from Georgetown University and a Master of Military Arts and Sciences degree from the School of Advanced Military Studies. He was a National Security Fellow at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. He is a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) and is a Certified Protection Professional (CPP), board-certified in security management. Lieutenant General Swan's awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Korean Defense Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Ranger Tab, Parachutist Badge, Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge, Army Staff Identification Badge, and the US Armor Association's Order of St. George.

